JUN 30 200 Docket No. PHF 99,595

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Technology Center 2600

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Raoul Florent et al.

Serial No. : 09/697,389

Filed : October 26, 2000

For : IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD, SYSTEM

AND APPARATUS FOR NOISE REDUCTION IN AN IMAGE SEQUENCE REPRESENTING

A THREADLIKE STRUCTURE

Art Unit : 2621

Examiner : Hussein Akhavannik

Confirm. No.: 4651

Customer No.: 01933

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE - GROUP 2600

MAIL STOP AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

SIR:

This is responsive to the Final Office Action dated May 3, 2004, the term for response to which expires August 3, 2004.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.